

## REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

The claims are 15 to 30 with claims 15, 16 and 20 to 30 being withdrawn from consideration.

The above amendment to claim 17 is responsive to points set forth in the Official Action. Support for such amendment is evident from page 6, lines 9 to 10 of the present specification.

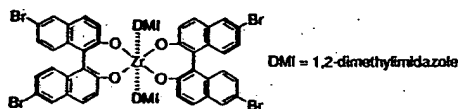
With regard to the rejection of claims 17 to 19 as indefinite in the term "ligand", such has been overcome by the above amendment by which a ligand is now defined.

Claim 17 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Kobayashi et al. (Reference U, cited by the Examiner).

This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The practical chiral zirconium catalyst of the present claims comprises a chiral zirconium catalyst and zeolite, wherein the chiral zirconium catalyst is fixed onto the zeolite.

Although Kobayashi et al. discloses the following chiral zirconium catalyst:



Kobayashi et al. neither disclose nor suggest that the chiral zirconium catalyst is fixed on a zeolite.

The advantages of such catalyst are discussed, for example, at page 1, line 25 to page 2, line 18 of the present specification.

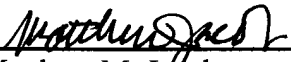
For the foregoing reasons, it is apparent that the rejection on Kobayashi et al. is untenable and should be withdrawn.

No further issues remaining, allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any comments or proposals for expediting prosecution, please contact undersigned at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

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